

Enabling international disaster telecommunications response through advance research & reporting



Project Title	Enabling international disaster telecommunications response through advance research & reporting
Project Summary	Help enable disaster responses worldwide by researching & reporting on the telecom landscape, communications licensing requirements and the contacts who approve and coordinate deployment of emergency telecom in developing countries that are vulnerable to natural disasters.
Country	United States
Country/Region of Focus	Global

Project Description

In the chaos following major international disasters, the ability to communicate can determine whether desperately needed help reaches a population, or whether citizens can take actions that can save their lives, and those of others. When communications networks go down following major international disasters, there are a number of response entities, including private sector companies, industry associations, and governments, working closely with United Nations Emergency Communications Coordination entities who can coordinate the provision of temporary communications capacity. However, enabling this lifesaving work begins well before a disaster. We are seeking interns who can help us research and maintain emergency communications profiles for developing countries that are vulnerable to natural disasters. Research will result in profiles that detail the communications landscape, communications licensing and approval requirements and a range of contacts that can enable and coordinate the deployment of incoming emergency communications equipment, including satellite communications, amateur radio, public safety radio, and wireless and internet communications equipment, in each country. In addition, students will assist their mentor with compiling case studies, best practices and lessons learned as reported by international communications officials in meetings of the United Nations International Telecommunication Union, to support the drafting of detailed reports to enable communications regulatory officials to address the communications aspects of international disasters.

Required Skills or Interests

Skill(s)

Analytical writing
Economic analysis
Editing and proofreading
Research
Writing

Additional Information

We are looking primarily for graduate students, but would consider highly qualified undergraduates. Applicants should have a strong interest in: international humanitarian communications, the types of communications equipment and capacity that is deployed in international humanitarian emergencies; an interest in exploring international business and regulatory requirements that can either help or hinder emergency communications deployments; reporting on communications networks, requirements and contacts in the developing world. Applicants should also have the ability to review, summarize and break down technical reporting into understandable and actionable information on best practices and lessons learned.

Knowledge of French or Spanish are encouraged, but not required. We typically receive many applications for these positions so applicants should expect to submit a writing sample that demonstrates experience in presenting complex reporting and analysis in an easy-to-read and actionable format.

Language Requirements

Language	Speaking Proficiency	Reading Proficiency	Importance
French	Minimum professional proficiency	Minimum professional proficiency	Nice to Have
Spanish	Minimum professional proficiency	Minimum professional proficiency	Nice to Have